INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY/DISTRICT MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST INTERNAL NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM

Property/District Name: <u>Ft. Meade Water Treatment Plant Bld</u>	g 8688 Survey Number: AA-50
Project: Section 110 Survey	Agency: F/Army
Site visit by MHT Staff: X no yes Name	Date
Eligibility recommended X Eligibility not recommen	ded
Criteria:AB _XCD Considerations:AB	CDEFGNone
Justification for decision: (Use continuation sheet if necessary and	d attach map)
Constructed in 1941, the Fort Meade Water Treatment Plant corand clearwells. The main building (Building 8688) is located on points. The Trust concurred that the building was eligible as it points three story, t-shaped, masonry building is composed of a first architectural elements such as the scored concrete, porthole windout of the Georgian Revival buildings on base. The Art Moderne f selection for the Army due to the limited materials and time during of integrity.	a prominent hilltop, visible from several vantage ossesses significance for its Art Moderne design. It floor concrete level and brick upper levels. The ows and patterned frieze are departures from most ceatures of Building 8688 was an unusual design
Documentation on the property/district is presented in: MIHP 1	form
Prepared by: Goodwin & Associates	
	11/6/06
Lauren Bowlin Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services	11/6/96 2 24 VO Date
Reviewer, Office of Prescribing Services	Duit
NR program concurrence: X yes no not applicable	,
2 tentre	2/29/00
Reviewer, NR program	Date

Survey I	No.	AA-50	

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA - HISTORIC CONTEXT

	Geographic Region:	
	Eastern Shore (al	ll Eastern Shore counties, and Cecil)
X	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	nne Arundel, Calvert, Charles, Prince George's and St. Mary's)
	-	City, Baltimore, Carroll,
		rederick, Harford, Howard, Montgomery)
		llegany, Garrett and Washington)
	Chronological/Developmental Per	riods:
	Paleo-Indian	10000-7500 B.C.
	Early Archaic	7500-6000 B.C.
	Middle Archaic	6000-4000 B.C.
	Late Archaic	4000-2000 B.C.
	Early Woodland	2000-500 B.C.
	Middle Woodland	500 B.C A.D. 900
	Late Woodland/Archaic	A.D. 900-1600
	Contact and Settlement	A.D. 1570-1750
	Rural Agrarian Intensification	A.D. 1680-1815
	Agricultural-Industrial Transition	A.D. 1815-1870
	Industrial/Urban Dominance	A.D. 1870-1930
$\overline{\mathbf{x}}$	Modern Period	A.D. 1930-Present
	Unknown Period (prehistoric _	historic)
I.	Prehistoric Period Themes:	IV. Historic Period Themes:
	Subsistence	Agriculture
	Settlement	X Architecture, Landscape Architecture,
	=	and Community Planning
	Political	Economic (Commercial and Industrial)
	Demographic	Government/Law
	Religion	X Military
	_ Technology	Religion
	Environmental Adaptation	Social/Educational/Cultural
	<u> </u>	Transportation
′. R	Resource Type:	
	Category: <u>building</u>	
	Historic Environment: village	
	Historic Function(s) and Use(s): _	military post/industry/ water treatment plant_
	Known Design Source:	
	MIOWII Design Source.	

Capsule Summary

Building 8688 (see also MHT form AA-34B) is the central building of the water treatment plant at Fort George G. Meade. It possesses local significance for its Art Moderne design. Building 8688 is an imposing edifice that exhibits a well articulated and refined design for this functional building type (Criterion C). The overall design choice for the facility reflected the building's functionality. Its symmetrical, scored, concrete basement boldly expresses its structural system. The second and third floors are faced in brick, the dominant material used in the Colonial Revival buildings constructed at Fort George G. Meade during the inter-war period. While the Colonial Revival style was employed in the design of the main cantonment, Building 8688 differs from those buildings in its bold rectangular block massing, flat roof, and ornamentation. The brick frieze and the central vertical brick panel located on the west end of the building illustrate Art Moderne motifs rather than Colonial Revival designs.

During World War II, the Army generally constructed simple utilitarian water treatment plants that lacked elaborate design and architectural ornamentation. During World War II, emphasis was placed on speed of construction and conservation of construction materials to support the war effort (Grandine et al. 1995). In the case of Fort Meade, the design of Building 8688 was important to the overall architectural appearance of the installation due to its prominent hilltop location overlooking the intersection of Mapes and O'Brien Roads. The intersection of Mapes Road with MD Route 32 is a major gate into the installation and Mapes Road is major thoroughfare through the installation. The refined architectural design of Building 8688 was developed in response to this prominent location.

The complex of buildings that comprise the water treatment plant includes the main treatment plant (Building 8688, 1941); sedimentation basins (SB1, 1932; SB2, 1941; and, SB3, 1954); and, three clearwells (CW1, ca. 1930s; CW2, 1960s; and, CW3, 1968). Four structures in the complex are over fifty years of age. These structures possess integrity of location, design, materials, and setting. In addition, the engineering integrity of the water treatment process remains intact. The other three structures were constructed within the last fifty years. Although the three structures are similar in design and materials to the structures older than fifty years, they are not contributing resources to the water treatment plant complex since they do not possess exceptional significance.

Maryland Comprehensive Preservation Plan Data

Geographic Organization:

Western Shore

Chronological/Development Periods:

Modern Period, A.D. 1930-Present

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme(s):

Military

Resource Type:

Category:

Building and structures

Historic Environment: Urban

Historic Functions(s) and Use(s):

Water Treatment Plant

Known Design Source: Office of the Quartermaster General, U.S. Army

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form HISTORIC PROPERTIES

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF

Survey	No.	AA-50

Magi No.

DOE __yes __no

1. Nam	e (indicate pre	eferred name)		
historic Build	ling 8688			
and/or common	Water Treatmant H	Plant		
2. Loca	ation			
street & number	Intersection of N	Mapes & O'Brien Road	ds N/A	1 not for publication
city, town For	rt George G. Meade	vicinity of	congressional district	3
state Mai	ryland	county	Anne Arundel	
3. Clas	sification			
Category district _X building(s) structure site object	OwnershipX public private both Public Acquisition in process being consideredXnot_applicable	Status X occupied unoccupied work in progress Accessible yes: restricted X yes: unrestricted no	Present Use agriculture commercial educational entertainment government industrial _X_ military	museum park private residence religious scientific transportation other:
4. Own	er of Prope	'ty (give names an	nd mailing addresses	s of <u>all</u> owners)
name Fort (George G. Meade, Di	rectorate of Public	Works	
street & number	Building 239, Ross	s Road	telephone no	.: 301-677-9757
city, town	Fort Meade	state	and zip code MD	20755
5. Loca	ation of Leg	al Description	on	
		Arundel County Cou		liber
street & number	7 Church Circle			folio
city, town An	napolis		state	Maryland
	resentation	in Existing	Historical Surv	eys
title Fort	George G. Meade Cul	tural Resource Mana	gment Plan	
date Augus	t 1994		_X_ federal state	e county loca
pository for su	urvey records Marylan	d Historical Trust	(copy on file)/Balt	imore District
city, town Ba	1timore		state	Maryland

- Desi	oription .		Survey No. 121 30	
Condition X excellent good fair	deteriorated ruins unexposed	Check oneX unaltered altered	Check one X original site moved date of move	

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

(see continuation sheets)

8. Si	ign	ificance		Survey No. AA-	50
Period prehis 1400 1500 1600 1700 1800 X 1900	·1499 ·1599 ·1699 ·1799 ·1899	Areas of Significance—Cl archeology-prehistoric agricultureX architecture art commerce communications	community planning conservation economics education engineering exploration/settlement	landscape architectul law literature X military music philosophy politics/government	science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater
Specific (dates	1941	Builder/Architect U.S.	Army, Quartermaste	r Corps
check:	aı Appl:	icable Criteria: X A nd/or icable Exception:	A _B _C _D _E		
Prepare support		a summary paragraph o	of significance and a	general statement	of history and
	(500	continuation sheets)			

(see continuation sheets)

10. Geographical Data	
Acreage of nominated property N/A 5.74 acres Quadrangle name Laurel, Maryland UTM References do NOT complete UTM references	Quadrangle scale 1:24,000
Zone Easting Northing	Zone Easting Northing
C	P
Verbal boundary description and justification (see continuation sheets) List all states and counties for properties overlapping s	tate or county boundaries
state N/A count	ty N/A code N/A
state code count	ty code
11. Form Prepared By	
name/title Katherine E. Grandine and W. Patrick	Giglio/Architectural Historians
organization R. Christopher Goodwin & Associates,	Inc. date June 1995
street & number 337 East Third Street	telephone 301-694-0428
city or town Frederick	state Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to:

Maryland Historical Trust

Shaw House

21 State Circle Annapolis, Maryland 21401

(301) 269-2438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DHCP/DHCF

100 COMMONTO SUN CROMMSVILLE MO LACCETOS SULTE LACADE

7. Description

Contributing Resources Count: 4

Summary

Building 8688 is the principal building of the water treatment plant at Fort George G. Meade. Constructed in 1941, the concrete and brick plant houses the water filtration process. The water treatment complex also includes three sedimentation basins and three clearwells. The water treatment complex is located on a hill overlooking the intersection of Mapes and O'Brien Roads. Mapes Road is a major thoroughfare and the location of a major gate to the installation. Support structures are located west and south of Building 8688.

Description

Building 8688 occupies a T-plan with overall dimensions of 58 by 109 feet. The west end of the building is two stories, while the east wing is one story. The building is supported by a poured concrete foundation with a basement that is exposed on three sides. The concrete basement is ornamented with scored bands. The north basement wall of the one-story wing features a row of circular metal-frame windows resembling portholes.

The brick walls are laid in five-course common bond. The two-story portion of the building features decorative elements reflecting the Art Moderne style. These elements include brick quoins, a patterned freize of alternating recessed brick headers located below the cornice line, and a decorative vertical panel on the west elevation of the building.

The building terminates in a flat roof covered with impregnated gravel. A brick parapet wall capped with concrete coping marks the roofline of both sections of the building.

Most windows are five-light, metal-frame hopper units located in recessed brick surrounds. The windows along the south elevation are infilled with glass block. These windows replaced original industrial sash windows. The doors are modern glass and metal frame replacements.

The building's interior is divided into two functional areas. The two-story portion contains storage, monitoring areas, and personnel areas. Chemicals are transported to the second story on a freight elevator that was installed in 1985. The first floor contains the mixing compartments and chemical room where chemicals are added during the initial and final stages of the treatment process, as well as the testing laboratory and main control room. The basement contains staff support areas (lockers and toilets) and additional storage.

The interior of the one-story wing is divided into two areas. The north half of the wing contains an open operation area with an enclosed office space at the east end. The south half of the building contains six concrete filter basins that are 20 feet deep and extend into the basement level. The basement on the northern half of the wing houses the pipe gallery where color-coded pipes transfer the water through the filter basins and to the exterior clearwell storage basins.

Three sedimentation basins are located immediately southeast of Building 8688. Two basins (SB1 and SB3) process river water; one basin (SB2) processes well water. Each rectangular concrete structure is divided by a solid concrete wall and provided with a grid of concrete catwalks. SB1 was constructed in 1932; SB2 was constructed in 1941; and, SB3 was constructed in 1954.

Three circular concrete clearwells are located southwest of Building 8688. The clearwells store filtered water before distribution throughout the installation. *Clearwells 1 and 2* hold 500,000 gallons; *Clearwell 3* holds one million gallons. The earliest clearwell, Clearwell 1, may date from the 1930s. Clearwell 2 appears on maps between 1963 and 1968. Clearwell 3 appears on a 1968 map (DPW, Building 8688, maps).

This Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties form was prepared as a result of a Phase II intensive architectural survey to assess the significance of Building 8688 located at Fort George G. Meade, Maryland, applying the National Register Criteria of Evaluation (36 CFR 60). Additional investigation of this resource was recommended as a result of a comprehensive reconnaissance-level architectural survey completed in conjunction with the Fort George G. Meade Cultural Resource Management Plan (CRMP) (McAloon et al. 1994).

The water treatment plant is a discrete component of a three-part water supply system for the installation. The other components of the water supply system are related to water collection and water distribution. Structures related to water collection include the dam at the Patuxent River, intake valves, water wells, and well pump houses. Structures related to water distribution include distribution pump houses and elevated water storage tanks. Structures associated with these latter components are dispersed throughout the installation and generally are isolated utility buildings and structures. Building 1957, for example, is a water well with pump house located over two miles from the water treatment plant. This resource is not associated with the water treatment process. In contrast, the water treatment plant is a cohesive, discrete complex comprised of the treatment building and support structures that are linked together by the use and technology.

Significance Summary

Building 8688 (see also MHT form AA-34B) is the central building of the water treatment plant at Fort George G. Meade. It possesses local significance for its Art Moderne design. Building 8688 is an imposing edifice that exhibits a well articulated and refined design for this functional building type (Criterion C). The overall design choice for the facility reflected the building's functionality. Its symmetrical, scored, concrete basement boldly expresses its structural system. The second and third floors are faced in brick, the dominant material used in the Colonial Revival buildings constructed at Fort George G. Meade during the inter-war period. While the Colonial Revival style was employed in the design of the main cantonment, Building 8688 differs from those buildings in its bold rectangular block massing, flat roof, and ornamentation. The brick frieze and the central vertical brick panel located on the west end of the building illustrate Art Moderne motifs rather than Colonial Revival designs.

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The complex of buildings that comprise the water treatment plant includes the main treatment plant (Building 8688, 1941); sedimentation basins (SB1, 1932; SB2, 1941; and, SB3, 1954); and, three clearwells (CW1, ca. 1930s; CW2, 1960s; and, CW3, 1968). Four structures in the complex are over fifty years of age. These structures possess integrity of location, design, materials, and setting. In addition, the engineering integrity of the water treatment process

remains intact. The other three structures were constructed within the last fifty years. Although the three structures are similar in design and materials to the structures older than fifty years, they are not contributing resources to the water treatment plant complex since they do not possess exceptional significance.

Historic Context

The Army currently lists 32 active water treatment plants constructed between 1917 and 1946 in its nationwide real property inventory (Grandine et al. 1995:273). The relatively low number of water filtration plants reflects the Army's preference to utilize existing municipal water supplies, where possible. Where this was impractical, as at Camp Meade, the Quartermaster Corps constructed water supply systems composed of buildings and structures related to water collection, water treatment, and water distribution.

During the inter-war era, the Quartermaster Corps standardized the internal workings of permanent water treatment plants according to water consumption estimates for each installation. The water treatment process included chemical treatment and filtration tanks. The water treatment process was housed in a building that contained a two- or three-story end block to house chemical treatment processes, storage, and offices, and a one-story (with basement) wing where the filters were housed. The exterior ornamentation of the Army's water treatment plants varied from installation to installation depending on the architectural character of surrounding installation and the building's location relative to other installation buildings or post plan.

Four water treatment plants illustrate the variety of exterior ornamentation applied to the Army's water treatment plants constructed during the late 1930s through 1943. All four plants have the typical end-block-with-wing plan. Building 1205, the water treatment plant located at Fort Knox, Kentucky, was constructed in 1938. Its Art Moderne exterior is reinforced concrete ornamented with cascading concrete water falls depicted in a zigzag pattern. This building is located within a half mile of the main cantonment. Fort Knox's second water treatment plant, Building 3009 completed in 1943, is strictly utilitarian. The reinforced concrete-frame supports concrete block walls. The building exhibits no architectural ornamentation. It is located in an isolated wooded part of the installation far from the main cantonment.

The water treatment plant (E5236) at Edgewood Arsenal, Maryland, was constructed in 1941. It is located in the center of an industrial complex. Although its design is utilitarian, its exterior concrete walls are finished in stucco. Its minimal architectural ornamentation includes a shaped parapet wall decorated with its incised construction date on the front facade and a scored eave line.

In December 1941, the Army completed a new water treatment plant (Building 8688) at Fort George G. Meade. The Construction Division, Office of the Quartermaster General, issued plans 6118-1007 through 1100 in January 1941. This building contained the typical end-block-withwing plan. The utilitarian building has a scored concrete basement. Its exterior upper walls were sheathed in brick to reflect the predominant construction material used at Fort Meade. The brick corner quoins imitate the barracks of the main cantonment. However, the brick frieze and decorative vertical brick panel on the west wing are ornamentation suggesting Art Moderne designs.

The 1941 water treatment plant at Fort George G. Meade replaced the original utilitarian complex constructed as part of the World War I mobilization cantonment. The World War I cantonment was one of 46 cantonments constructed nationwide. The camps resembled small cities that were organized around road networks and railroads. Each cantonment required a secure potable water supply, sewage disposal, electrical power, and other utilities.

Fort Meade's self-contained water supply came from the Little Patuxent River. The river water was pumped for processing to a filtration plant located at the site of Building 8688. The original plant comprised wooden buildings that contained the filtration system and round wooden storage tanks. A wooden high-lift station pumped water for distribution throughout the installation. The original water mains were wooden.

In 1928, the installation became a permanent Army installation and was one of 32 installations initially selected for permanent improvement under a nationwide Army construction campaign. In 1926, Congress authorized the War Department to sell unnecessary installations and to use the proceeds to improve existing installations. The tasks of design and construction of permanent buildings became the responsibility of the Office of the Quartermaster General. The program objective was to produce Army installations that were functional, aesthetically attractive, cost effective, and responsive to the different climactic conditions and architectural tradition of their locations. At Fort George G. Meade, the architecture of permanent buildings featured Colonial Revival design elements derived from Doughoregan Manor, the nearby estate of Maryland's Revolutionary War statesman, Charles Carroll III (Wheaton 1928:101-3; Cannan et al. 1994).

The construction program also funded utility systems for water treatment, sewage disposal, and electrical distribution. In 1928, the wood-frame, World War I-era water filtration plant and the high-lift pumping station at Fort George G. Meade were reconstructed in brick. In 1932, the World War I circular wooden tanks at Fort George G. Meade were replaced by an open, square reinforced-concrete sedimentation basin (SB1) with a 500,000 gallon capacity and a circular concrete clearwell (CW1) with a 500,000 gallon capacity (NARA, RG 77, Construction Completion Reports, Fort George G. Meade, MD; DPW, Real property records).

When World War II mobilization construction began in the autumn of 1940, the Office of the Quartermaster General also planned a permanent expansion to Fort Meade's water supply. Construction included a new water filtration building (Building 8688) and a new sedimentation basin (SB2). The construction contract was awarded individually; it was not included in the construction contracts for the mobilization cantonment. The building was constructed of masonry and was intended to serve the installation beyond war time (DPW, Drawings; NARA, RG 77, Construction Completion Reports, Fort George G. Meade, MD).

The water treatment plant provided four million gallons of water per day to meet the needs of a cantonment planned for 30,000 people. The filtration plant utilized a two-step water treatment process: rapid sand filtration that operated by gravity and chemical treatment (Lutz 1941). This two-step process was a typical method of water treatment used by both civilian and Army water treatment plants by World War II (Grandine et al. 1995).

The water treatment plant at Fort George G. Meade processes water in basically the same way today as it did when completed in 1941. After the water is pumped from the Little Patuxent River, the processing system operates by gravity. Initially the water passes through a high-speed

mixing chamber where chemicals are added. The water then passes through a reinforced concrete sedimentation basin (1932) where slow mixing occurs. Originally water was mixed by wooden paddles, but today mixing is done with rotating arms. The water flows into the filtration plant where it is filtered in concrete basins that hold a media of sand and anthracite coal. After filtration, the water receives its final chemical treatment, then flows into a clearwell for final storage before distribution throughout the installation (Blair, DPW, personal communication 1995).

The overall process of water treatment at Building 8688 remains intact to the original plan. The water flows through the plant in the same pattern. Over time, minor technological changes have been introduced. The addition of chemicals, once a hand operation, is now mechanized. Today an automatic, system-wide control panel monitors the addition of chemicals, water flow, and water purity; this control panel was installed in the 1960s and replaced individual monitoring systems attached to each part of the process. Flocculation drives in the sedimentation basins originally were wooden paddles, but now are rotating arms. Filtering media, chemical feeding equipment, and piping are upgraded or replaced as needed (Blair, DPW, personal communication 1995).

In addition to water pumped from the Little Patuxent River, the water treatment plant also processes water drawn from wells, which are a secondary water source for the installation. Wells are dispersed throughout the installation. Building 1957 was constructed in 1941 and is located east of Route 175; it is the earliest well and pumping station listed on the installation's building inventory. Currently, well water is processed through aeration towers and mixed in a separate sedimentation basin. Well water can be filtered separately or mixed with the filtered river water in the final filtering steps (Blair, DPW, personal communication 1995).

During the 1950s, the capacity of the water filtration plant was expanded to accommodate the increased demands resulting from the National Security Agency relocation to Fort George G. Meade. In 1955, Building 8688 received a two-bay addition to the northeast elevation of the existing wing. This addition contained office space and two indoor concrete filtering basins. A second high-lift pumping station (Building 8699) was added to the complex in 1953. A third sedimentation basin was constructed in 1954.

Conclusion

Building 8688 is a water treatment plant that possesses local significance for its Art Moderne design (Criterion C). The building's elaborate architectural design was developed in response to its prominent location on a hill overlooking the intersection of Mapes and O'Brien Roads. Building 8688 is the central building in the water treatment process. The process also includes three sedimentation basins for mixing and three clearwells for final storage before the water is distributed throughout the installation. Building 8688, Sedimentation Basins 1 and 2, and Clearwell 1 possess integrity of location, design, materials, and setting. In addition, the engineering integrity of the water treatment process remains intact.

Section 9: Major Bibliographic References

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Cannan, Deborah K., Leo Hirrel, Katherine Grandine, Kathryn Kuranda, Bethany Usher, Hugh McAloon, and Martha Williams

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1919 America's Munitions, 1917-1918. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C.

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1985 An Illustrated History of Fort George G. Meade. Fort Meade Museum, Fort Meade.

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1941 The 29th Infantry Division and Fort George G. Meade. Public Relations Office, Fort George G. Meade.

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National Archives and Records Administration

RG 77 Records of the Chief of Engineers, Fort George G. Meade, Maryland

Weigley, Russell F.

1984 History of the United States Army. Indiana University Press, Bloomington.

Wheaton, Francis B.

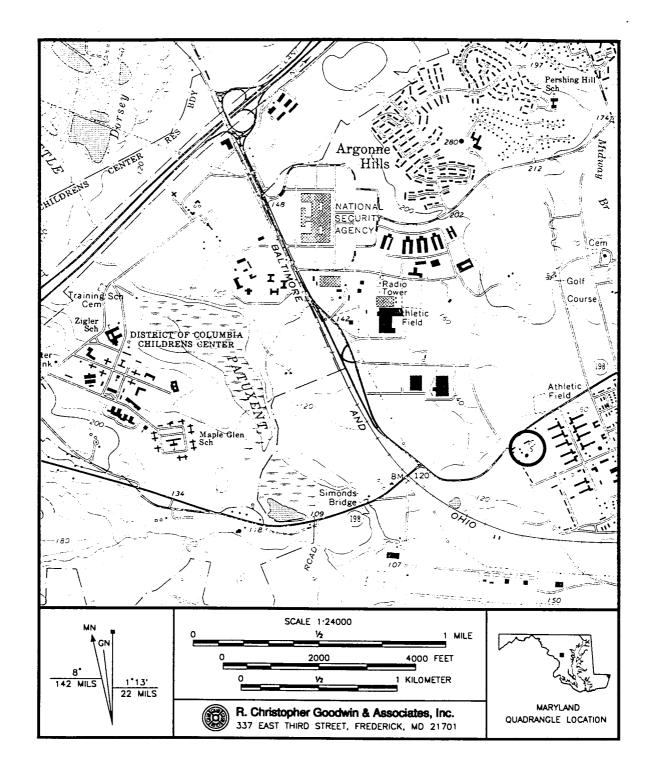
1928 The Architecture of the Army Post. *The Quartermaster Review*, 8:10-13.

Section 10

Verbal Boundary Description and Justification

Building 8688 is located at Fort George G. Meade in Anne Arundel County, Maryland. It occupies a prominent location on a hill overlooking the intersection of Mapes and O'Brien Roads. The intersection of Mapes Road with MD Route 32 is a major gate into the installation, and Mapes Road is major thoroughfare through the installation. The water filtration complex includes three sedimentation basins, the water filtration plant, and three clearwells. This site has been the location of Fort George G. Meade's water filtration system since World War I.

AA-50 Building 8688 Fort George G. Meade Anne Arundel County, MD Locational Map: USGS Laurel Quadrangle Map





AA-50 Building 5488 Ft. George G. Made Anne Arm del Co, 11D Put Ginliu 6/95 Ec. Goodwin + Associate, Frederick HL View northeast 1 0+ 5 Z Z0-+-h h h 1870 1 251 0 41 H-10 100



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